

UNITED STATES SENATOR • IOWA

# CHUCK GRASSLEY

RANKING MEMBER • SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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Grassley Named Conferee on Trade Legislation

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Chuck Grassley, ranking member of the Committee on Finance, today was named a conferee to negotiate the differences between Senate- and House-passed trade legislation.

Grassley and Sen. Orrin Hatch are the Republican Senate conferees. Sens. Max Baucus, John Rockefeller, and John Breaux are the Democratic Senate conferees.

"This is a good development," Grassley said. "A conference on this historic legislation has lagged for too long. We need to get started. Our trading partners are moving on without us. Our workers and our economy need trade promotion authority to succeed. Now we have to get it done. With enough political will, I'm confident we can complete this conference by the August recess. I want the bill on the President's desk this year."

On Dec. 6, 2001, the House passed H.R. 3005, the *Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act*, by a vote of 215 to 214. The House appointed conferees on June 26, 2002.

On May 23, 2002, the Senate passed H.R. 3009, the *Trade Act of 2002*, which included renewal of trade promotion authority, renewal and expansion of the *Andean Trade Preference Act*, renewal of the Generalized System of Preferences, re-authorization and expansion of the Trade Adjustment Assistant program, and re-authorization of the U.S. Customs Service.